



DISCIPLES OF JESUS **“Authority and Obedience” Matthew 7:21–29**

No. 6321

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Matthew described the amazing authority of Jesus’ teaching, gave examples of Jesus’ authority in action and showed how He taught disciples to obey His authority while delegating some authority to them as they obediently served Him.

I. The Remarkable Authority of Jesus’ Teaching.

- A. I have not come to abolish the Law and Prophets but to FULFILL them. Matthew 5:17
- B. I will tell them plainly “I never knew you. Away from me.....” Matthew 7:21-23
- C. “You have heard.....But I tell you.” Matthew 5:21, 27, 31, 33, 38, & 43
- D. He spells out stark alternatives – two roads (Matthew 7:13-14) two houses (Matthew 7:24f)

II. The Unmistakable Authority of Jesus Seen in His Actions.

- A. Jesus touches and heals the leper. Matthew 8:1-4
 - 1. He is not made ceremonially unclean – He makes the unclean, clean.
 - 2. He commands the man to keep quiet and to report to the priest.
- B. Jesus heals the centurion’s servant without going near him. Matthew 8:5-13
 - 1. The centurion’s faith recognizes Jesus’ authority is delegated – like his!
 - 2. He knows what “go,” “come,” and “do this” mean!
- C. Jesus speaks plainly and realistically about discipleship. Matthew 8:18-22
 - 1. Jesus showed grace is freely available and discipleship is costly.
 - 2. Commitment to Jesus takes precedence over commitment to family.
- D. Jesus calms the storm and challenges troubled disciples. Matthew 8:23-27
 - 1. The power and authority of Jesus transcends all other powers.
 - 2. The disciples must learn to live as if they believe it.
- E. Jesus follows up his words by action. Matthew 9:1-8
 - 1. He tells the paralytic his sins are forgiven.
 - 2. But saying it is easy – backing it up with authority is another matter.

III. The Inescapable Realities of Jesus’ Authority.

- A. Jesus as God had divine authority; but as Man he depended on God’s authority.
- B. Jesus delegated some authority to His disciples expecting them to use it. Matthew 10:1
- C. Jesus, with “all authority in heaven and earth” demands obedience of us.
 - 1. Go if he says go!
 - 2. Come if he says come.
 - 3. Do this if he says do it!

Points to ponder: Obedience is the proper response to authority; not least for disciples.